

Email: Sent on Behalf of Administrator Charles F. Bolden Jr.

SUBJECT: NAPA Independent Review Executive Summary and Initial Agency Response

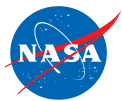
In July 2013, following an internal review of our practices relevant to Foreign National Access Management, and the strong interest in this important matter by Chairman Frank Wolf (R-VA), House Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies, I commissioned an independent study by the National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA) to conduct a Focused Independent Security Review (the Review). The Review evaluated the effectiveness of select aspects of NASA programs relevant to Foreign National Access Management. NASA identified five focus areas for this Review: Foreign National Access (Physical and Logical), Information Technology (IT) Security, Counterintelligence, Export Control, and Organizational and Functional Relationships.

The NAPA team consisted of a Study Team that brought a mix of subject matter expertise in relevant disciplines and program assessment and a Panel of Academy Fellows chaired by the Honorable Richard Thornburgh. The NAPA Study Team initiated the Review at NASA Headquarters reviewing policy and conducting targeted interviews. The Study Team conducted site visits to five Centers in August and September 2013. The Centers visited as part of the Review were Ames Research Center (ARC), Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), Goddard Space Flight Center (GSFC), Langley Research Center (LaRC), and Marshall Space Flight Center (MSFC). I credit Chairman Wolf for pushing to have an outside, independent study done, rather than an internal study as I had originally planned. I also want to thank the Center Directors and their teams at the centers visited by the NAPA team because this effort would not have been successful without the exceptional candor and engaging support of employees at these Centers.

NASA received NAPA's Final Report on the Review on January 31, 2014. The Final Report is designated Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU). NAPA identified twenty-seven findings and recommendations. I provided an initial response letter to the NAPA Panel Chair identifying our commitment to reviewing the NAPA recommendations thoroughly and to have them inform changes to our existing processes.

I have provided the final report to the House and Senate Committees on Appropriations. We are currently drafting responses to the recommendations and will be providing the Committees on Appropriations a report with a proposed response to each recommendation. This report will be updated on a quarterly basis to document progress in implementing the responses.

I have enclosed the NAPA executive summary, my letter to NAPA, and my letter to Chairman Wolf. These items will be posted on NASA's Reports Page. Associate Administrator Robert Lightfoot will review this with the Center and Mission Directors and Chiefs during his weekly forum and Robert and I will include this on our talking points to all NASA and contractor employees during our post-budget rollout update visits in March and April.



This independent report is a reminder of our duties as federal employees to protect both our data and our facilities—it has identified gaps that we need to address as an Agency to ensure that we are providing that protection for the future and I thank Chairman Wolf for his persistent push on this. I look forward to working with you to improve our Agency's efficiency and effectiveness in the identified areas.

*Charlie B.*